

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

June 3, 2010

COMMITTEE ON  
FINANCIAL SERVICES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS,  
INSURANCE, AND GOVERNMENT SPONSORED  
ENTERPRISES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY

Commissioner Allan H. "Bud" Selig  
MLB Advanced Media, L.P.  
75 Ninth Avenue, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10011

Dear Commissioner Selig:

Last night at Comerica Park highlighted everything that is right with baseball, Detroit and America: the players, the fans, and all who love the game witnessed what all agree was a perfectly pitched game by the Tigers' Armando Galarraga against the Cleveland Indians; and further witnessed an outpouring of support and sympathy for the umpire whose immense integrity led him to admit his sincere regret over the honest mistake which places this perfect game's recognition at risk.

It is now up to Major League Baseball (MLB) to continue displaying all that is right with the game, its players, umpires and fans: duly recognize the game as a "perfect" pitching performance.

As per the three main objections to doing so, please consider the following:

First, the "integrity of the game" and any human endeavor rests upon truth. If, despite all objective observers including the umpire agree the game was perfect but for the admittedly missed call, MLB will ironically perpetuate the myth the game was imperfect. Only by persisting in this myth, which no one believes, will MLB undermine the integrity of the game.

Secondly, this will not open a "Pandora's Box." The only precedent set will be strictly limited: namely, that in the immediate wake of a perfect game wherein an umpire's admitted mistake on the 27<sup>th</sup> out has placed the historic pitching gem's recognition at risk, MLB shall retain the power to rectify the situation and recognize the game as a perfect one. All other "Pandora's Box" arguments are tantamount to *reduction ad absurdum* arguments (which, for time's sake, I shall not endeavor to address herein).

Finally, MLB's hierarchy is also part of the game's "human dimension." Ergo, it would be inhumane to force the pitcher, teammates, fans and – perhaps most importantly – the umpire to have to live with this epic error, especially when MLB has the power to rectify the situation and alleviate their suffering.

Understanding this is not a decision to be made lightly due to baseball's storied legacy and traditions, I ask you to recognize this perfect game precisely to protect them: again, only the truth will uphold and honor the integrity of the game; and the truth is that this game was perfect.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Thaddeus G. McCotter  
Member of Congress  
Lifelong Detroit Tigers Fan and Baseball Nut